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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re the application of: Edward L. Sinofsky

Examiner: D. Shay

Serial No.: 08/411,581

Filed: March 29, 1995

Group Art Unit: 3311

For: INFRARED LASER CATHETER SYSTEM

Attorney Docket No.: ROE-040C4

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

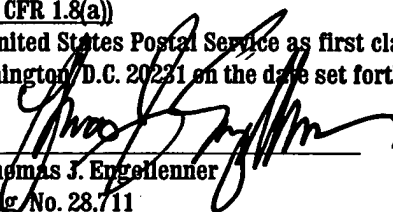
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January 8, 1998

Date of Signature and of Mail Deposit

By:

  
Thomas J. Engelienner  
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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-reference patent application as follows:

In the Claims

1. 60. (Amended) A system for transmitting laser energy via an optical fiber to a surgical site comprising:

a laser energy source operating at a wavelength in a range of about 1.4 - 2.2 micrometers; and

[an] a flexible, elongate optical fiber for conducting laser energy from a proximal end of said fiber to a surgical site at a distal end of said fiber, the proximal end being coupled to the output of said laser energy source, and said fiber being a silica fiber having a low hydroxyl ion content to reduce absorption of said laser energy during transmission through said fiber.